



Mrs. Barbara Talley
www.barbaratalley.me

Huge Praise for a Successful Event!
June 2021

Barbara Talley

On June 15, 2021, Leidos' Intel Group held its fourth installment of the Group's Inclusion & Diversity (I&D) Workforce Pillar Speaker Series. The Intel I&D Pillar's Here & Now to Act! (H&NtACTion!) subteam previously invited Dr. Tatum, Ivy Planning Group and Jane Elliott to share their experiences on the topic of race and inclusion in the workplace.

To pick up where we left off with the controversial Jane Elliott, we invited the magical Barbara Talley to share with us her experiences, lessons and stories as a renowned speaker, author, poet and publisher. We were interested to hear her unique perspective and extensive knowledge on the role of the fear-safety dichotomy, Appreciative Inquiry and Cognitive Dissonance in managing and succeeding as an inclusive leader. Her professional foundation working for a large corporation, knowing and appreciating those restrictions and demands, as well as her underlying knowledge base in technology were critical in establishing instant credibility and an esoteric connection with our highly technical audience.

Barbara brought her A-game, a perpetual state for her, gently, authoritatively, captivantly and clearly guiding us through scenarios, thoughts, fact-based information and the extensive experience she's encountered domestically and globally in this arena. She shaped the discussion and context to revolve around understanding difficult to acknowledge actions and obstacles, which hinder all of us from being the inclusive and successful leaders we aspire to be as members of the human race.

The Intel I&D Pillar continues to create opportunities and moments where we can stop our daily duties to listen, share and reflect on what we hear, see and feel from others, as much as within ourselves. Barbara engrossed not only with "the what" but the powerful why and how of being better people leaders. Most impressive however was Barbara's honest, direct, peaceful and embracing delivery. If all that was not powerful enough, her discussion was equally lively and fun! Exactly what we need when dealing with and trying to grasp very personal and internal explorations of who we are, who we want to be and how to get there together.

If the organizing subteam's words were not enough, some feedback from the audience:

"This was a wonderful meeting.... I could hear well and enjoyed the conversation.... Definitely worthwhile, though, and I just wanted to emphasize that to my leadership. Especially enjoyed the comment "If we all had the same things in common, we would all be the same and there wouldn't be a need for more than one of us."

"Great job leading an engaging and insightful call..."

It was an honor and pleasure to host Barbara at Leidos. We would love to have her back for more.

Sincerely,

Intel Pillar's 2021 Here & Now to ACTION! subteam

Judith M Sung, Subteam Lead & PM